

Some in the media have already suggested that the al Qaeda may be encouraging the whole event. Some unintended consequences do occur, what will come from this attack is still entirely unknown.

It's a well-known fact that the al Qaeda are not allies of Saddam Hussein and despise the secularization and partial westernization of Iraqi culture. They would welcome the chaos that's about to come. This will give them a chance to influence post-Saddam-Hussein Iraq. The attack, many believe, will confirm to the Arab world that indeed the Christian West has once again attacked the Muslim East, providing radical fundamentalists a tremendous boost for recruitment.

An up or down vote on declaring war against Iraq would not pass the Congress, and the President has no intention of asking for it. This is unfortunate, because if the process were carried out in a constitutional fashion, the American people and the U.S. Congress would vote No on assuming responsibility for this war.

Transferring authority to wage war, calling it permission to use force to fight for peace in order to satisfy the U.N. Charter, which replaces article I, section 8 war power provision, is about as close to 1984 "newspeak" that we will ever get in the real world.

Not only is it sad that we have gone so far astray from our Constitution, but it's also dangerous for world peace and threatens our liberties here at home.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GREEN of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### PUT AN END TO CORPORATE ABUSE AND HELP EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, we have seen a bevy of cases in which corporate executives plunder their own business, work with insiders, and do dastardly things in their business world. We have seen them use every kind of device known to mankind to avoid their responsibilities to their debtors, to their

employees, to the retirees, to their fellow insiders even. And so we have done great things in trying to curb that kind of practice.

Yesterday, I introduced H.R. 5525, which takes another step down the road of protecting the employees and the retirees of a given company that might have corporate executives going down the wrong paths. My bill would simply state that if such a corporate executive should go bankrupt or a business like that go bankrupt, that retirees under that corporate structure will be protected with respect to their retirement so that the bankruptcy would not absolve the retirees benefits that would accrue to them if the corporation kept alive.

And so protecting retirees is one of the aspects of our bankruptcy reform bill for corporate executives. The other one would be to make sure that employees currently on the payroll are not robbed of their potential pay checks by a bankruptcy that absolves or tries to absolve the corporate executives from meeting their salary and wage obligations to the employees. We allow the bankruptcy courts to take that into consideration when such a bankruptcy occurs so that the employees can be protected.

This is a national extension of the work that we have been doing over 5 years now to reform the bankruptcy laws of our country. Do you recognize the fact that the current law which we are trying to change and which we are within a quarter of an inch of trying to change that the current law under bankruptcy allows one of these corporate executives to take millions of dollars, escape to a State that has a homestead exemption and then purchase a big mansion in one of these places where the full value of that mansion would not be subject to creditors or to employees or anybody else?

We have changed that in our bankruptcy reform bill. And so everyone should recognize that one of the good things that comes out of bankruptcy reform is further safeguarding against corrupt corporate executives and streamlines a system that for so many years really required streamlining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHOWS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FARR of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CHANGE IN APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 4, SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2002

The SPEAKER (during the Special Order of Mr. KUCINICH). Pursuant to clause 11 of rule I, the Chair announces that in the appointment of the managers on the part of the House in the conference on the bill H.R. 4, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Mrs. CUBIN) is appointed, in addition to the appointment from the Committee on Resources, for consideration of the House bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference.

The Clerk will notify the Senate of the change in conferees.

#### VOTE "NO" ON IRAQ WAR RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Speaker and the leadership for providing me with this opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, it was just a few moments ago that 25 Members of Congress, in temperatures that outside